

## INQUIRY SHOWS GRAFT LEVIED IN NEW WAYS

**Tribute Exacted on Structural Steel and Iron Operations Here.**

**STRIKE THREAT USED  
Painters and Carpenters  
Are in Revolt Against  
Brindell.**

**FAKERS AS ARTISANS  
Grand Jury Investigation Into  
Situation Will Get Under  
Headway To-day.**

Sources of revenue which must have netted the graft ring tremendous profits, all shaken from the pockets of builders and contractors who were the victims of the system, came to light yesterday as the Lockwood Housing Committee linked up several important pieces of evidence in the investigation of the building industry.

Counsel for the committee were in conference throughout the day in preparation for the Grand Jury inquiry which will be started to-day in the State courts. Samuel Untermyer will begin laying evidence before the jury as soon as the routine of organizing is completed.

Practically every piece of structural steel and iron work done in New York in the last year has been levied upon for tribute to the system. This form of construction amounts to millions.

Always holding the threat of strike over the heads of builders, the grafters have demanded that they be "seen" before permitting the Housewives' Union, the "King" and president of the Trades Council, the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers have issued an ultimatum to members of their trade, saying: "Brindell is not going to let his name be used in connection with the strike, which threatens the life of all organized labor, or he loses his power as employer."

The employer and the housewife who employed carpenters to put up buildings or do a little patch job around the home have been equally disgusted by the incompetency of many of the men they have been forced to hire. Men who have represented themselves as carpenters and received \$10 for a day's work, it now develops, are in hundreds of cases dishonest or common laborers who hardly know the difference between a hammer and a saw. They have been made carpenters overnight by the Brindell council by the simple process of giving them a "privilege card," which gave them the rank and the right to work.

When E. B. Levy testified before the Lockwood committee that he was compelled to pay \$25,000 to call off a strike on the \$2,000,000 Textile Building, Seventh avenue and Thirty-first street, the counsel started the inquiry into the operation of the steel and iron trade. The Housewives' Union, which does most of this work, is a law unto itself. The Iron League always has refused to admit the closed shop policy and the national labor leaders do not recognize the old Sam Parks outfit.

**Situation Helps Ring.**  
The situation has lent itself admirably to the purposes of the ring. The building code in New York requires that all buildings of more than four stories must have structural steel support. According to the information developed by the Lockwood committee, the "system" permits the work of erecting a new building to get well started before the tribute from the wreckers and excavators has been collected properly and then begins to make trouble. The word is given that the Trades Council, advocate of union operation, cannot permit its men to work on a building where the Housewives' Union, which is outside of labor ranks, is employed. Then comes the strike threat. Unless adequate contribution is forthcoming immediately, all other unions than the steel workers call a strike.

Upon the refusal of a contractor or builder to submit to the holdup, the demand had been backed up with the further threat that unless the money was paid over promptly all the work completed up to the time the levy was made would have to be torn down and done over by men recognized by the system. There is not on record a single instance of work having been torn down. The attempt to get the money out of the contractor has been made even to the point of the highest bidder being estimated what graft has been collected from this source, but it is expected that before the investigation has gone much further it will be shown to have been one of the big items in the illicit budget.

**New Light Is Shed.**  
New light has been shed on the council's method of dealing with skilled artisans. When carpenters refused to join Brindell's council he began building up his own organization as an auxiliary to the Dock Builders' Union. This latter is Brindell's personally conducted organization and its 5,000 members escape by paying their master fifty cents a month each.

But the new carpenters and joiners taken in did not get off so easily. They have to pay \$25 for the privilege of getting into the organization. That payment does not make them members of a union or anything else, but merely gives them the right to work when the dictators assign them. It does give them the right to charge \$10 a day for services. This system of making carpenters and other skilled workmen is one of the explanations of the high cost of building. Men who are not competent to serve even as helpers to the kind of carpenters our fathers knew get their \$10 a day when they work. But their lot is not all easy.

Their payments for their \$25 privilege must be made at the rate of \$5 a week. As soon as the full sum has been paid in the new carpenter finds that he is out of a job and must take out another card for the further privilege of working. What it amounts to is a perpetual \$5 a week payment to the system. The committee will seek to learn at an early session how many victims have been making these payments.

This privilege card system has been developed in several other lines, and the extent of its operation will be shown later in the investigation.

## WOMAN PASTOR SAYS BIBLE PROPHECIES G. O. P. VICTORY

**Rev. Clara Gates of Church of Christ in the Clouds,  
Nyack, Quotes From Revelation—Eagle and  
the Ass Help Forecast.**

The Bible and the cloud formations of the sky give convincing indication of a Republican victory, according to the Rev. Clara Gates, pastor of the Church of Christ in the Clouds, in Nyack. Mrs. Gates is non-partisan, but she said yesterday that "this will be a Republican year if the signs are carried out."

For her Biblical authority Mrs. Gates points to the twelfth chapter of Revelation, from which she quoted: "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle that she might fly into the wilderness." This may be interpreted, Mrs. Gates believes, as applying to the present election, in which women are coming into the vote and are rallying around the Republican emblem, the eagle.

"It might also be said," she added, "that when Christ entered Jerusalem

during His first appearance upon earth He entered riding upon an ass, the emblem of the Democratic party. But there are no asses in the clouds—they are all on earth—and when we look to the second coming of Christ it is logical to conclude that the day of the ass is past and that the eagle and elephant bands of the clouds bear far more significance and are favorable to the Republican candidates."

Frank P. Schwahn, also of Nyack, known as the Spring Valley astrologist and weather prophet, finds that the horoscope of Gov. Cox proclaims him to be another Thomas Jefferson. "People born under Aries," he said, "are usually executive, earnest and determined, accomplishing what they resolve to do against all opposition. They are leaders and naturally dominate those about them. Thomas Jefferson of all our Presidents was the only one born under this sign."

## ESCAPING GAS KILLS FOUR IN THEIR SLEEP

**Two Radio Operators of U. S.  
Battleship and Man and  
Wife Are Victims.**

Mr. and Mrs. John Harold and two radio operators of the battleship Florida, now in the Hudson River, were asphyxiated by gas early yesterday in a rooming house at 305 East Fifty-third street. The gas flowed from a rubber tube that had connected a jet with a small stove in the center of the room. The sailors were found lying near a window, to which they apparently had crawled in an effort to obtain fresh air. Mr. and Mrs. Harold lay in a bed behind a curtain that divided the large room.

Edward Willington, owner of the rooming house since October 1, was notified by roomers that there was a strong odor of gas in the hallway. He traced it to the room occupied by the Harolds. Receiving no response to knocks at the door Willington climbed into the room through a window. Drs. Mulligan and Herzkoft of Flower Hospital, aided by two policemen, worked over the bodies with pulmonary for about two hours. It is thought by the police the seamen were friends of the Harolds and had been invited to remain overnight.

A surgeon from the battleship visited the morgue last night and made positive identification of the seamen as Edward P. Lumbert, 20 years old, of Midway, Tex., and Enoch Perkins, 19 years old, of Mechanics Falls, Me. Shore leave had been granted to them Saturday. The bodies of the dead men were notified, and the surgeon took steps to have the Navy Department ship the bodies of the seamen to their home towns to-day.

## WHALEN TAKES STAIR FROM 'L' ROAD STATION

**I. R. T. Refuses, So Commissioner  
Does the Job.**

Following the refusal of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company to remove a stairway to the uptown Canal street station of the Third avenue "L" from an "island" at the northeast corner of Canal street and the Bowery, Grover A. Whalen, Commissioner of Plant and Structure, went to the spot with a gang of workmen at midnight Saturday to do the job.

A fustled cop thought they ought to be arrested and called for reserves from the Clinton street station. The workmen dared the policeman to take them to the lockup and leave the stairway dangling where it might fall on the "L" as he passed by his way to and from Sunwick. The police decided to let them finish the job.

The stairway was ordered removed two months ago. Mr. Whalen said, after the city plan had been changed to widen the Bowery from Bayard to Canal street, wiping out the "island" and permitting two more lines of tracks to proceed north and swing on to Manhattan Bridge without interfering with east and west traffic. On Friday, he said, Frank Hedley, president of the Interborough, wrote him that the company would not remove it and that if the city did it must do so at its own expense and locate it elsewhere. Mr. Whalen doubts the stairway will be relocated.

## MEMORIAL TO HONOR EAST SIDE WAR HEROES

**Names Will Be Inscribed on  
Shaft.**

The names of seventy-one service men who died in the war and who lived in the lower East side, between Battery and Corlears Hook parks, have been received by the Community Memorial Committee, which is to put up a memorial shaft. The names of all other service men whose homes were in this district, and who died in the war are sought that they may be placed on a bronze tablet which will be set in a panel in the granite shaft.

The neighborhood is cosmopolitan, and the names now in the hands of the committee are French, German, Spanish, Greek, Italian, Chinese, British and others.

Gov. Alfred E. Smith, who knew many of the heroes, will turn the first shovelful of earth at the ground breaking ceremony. The committee has headquarters at 63 Madison street. Its members are John F. Keating, Henry McCaddin, Patrick J. Whelan and William A. Thompson.

## BROOKLYN NO LONGER 'CITY OF CHURCHES'

**The Rev. Dr. Carson Points  
Changes in 35 Years.**

Brooklyn can no longer claim the title of "City of Churches," it was pointed out by Dr. John F. Carson, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, in his thirty-fifth anniversary sermon yesterday. Dr. Carson said that when he came to Brooklyn in 1885 it had a population of 550,000 and 287 places of worship, or a church for every 2,191 persons. Now, with a population of about two and a half millions, he said, there are 572 churches, or one for every 4,370 persons.

"Brooklyn has become more than New York's sleeping place," said Dr. Carson. "In the number of her manufacturing plants and their employees she now ranks fourth among the cities of the country. Yet 80 per cent. of the buildings in Brooklyn are residential."

## MISHA APPELBAUM IN COMA, NEAR DEATH

**Humanitarian Cult's Founder,  
Victim of Poison, Not  
Likely to Recover.**

**HIS AGE IS AGAINST HIM**

**Wife, Better, Is in Boston—  
Boy Telephones to Hospital:  
'Goodbye, Daddy.'**

Misha Appelbaum, founder and head of the Humanitarian Cult, who, with his wife, swallowed a large quantity of bi-chloride of mercury Friday night a week ago, lapsed into a coma at Knickerbocker Hospital last night, from which, it was believed, he will not recover. The slow working poison, it was said, had outwitted the physicians in their efforts to stem its deadly progress. Although the cult leader had lapsed into coma before, his strength was at such a low ebb last yesterday that death was expected momentarily.

Shortly before Mr. Appelbaum became unconscious the switchboard operator at the hospital received a telephone message from a boy who said he was the son of the cult leader. The boy was weeping and in broken tones said, "Give my love to papa—won't you please be sure."

The operator told the child his father probably would die during the night. "Then tell daddy goodbye for me," he said, "telling him to hang up and hanging up, the operator tried to trace the call, but could not.

Mrs. Helen York Appelbaum, wife of the cult leader, left the hospital Friday afternoon. Miss Irma Goehd of Riverdale, and who obtained a divorce from the cult leader in Reno, Nev., in September, 1917. John Appelbaum, now 10 years old, son by a previous marriage, is living with his mother. The second Mrs. Appelbaum, who is a bride of six months, was Miss Helen Sherman York, a concert singer.

Nothing is known of the whereabouts of Mr. Appelbaum's first wife, who formerly was Miss Irma Goehd of Riverdale, and who obtained a divorce from the cult leader in Reno, Nev., in September, 1917. John Appelbaum, now 10 years old, son by a previous marriage, is living with his mother. The second Mrs. Appelbaum, who is a bride of six months, was Miss Helen Sherman York, a concert singer.

The passengers, bruised and panic stricken, were helped with difficulty. Mayor Charles F. Gillen, passing in his automobile, carried several of the injured to the Newark City Hospital and others were taken by other motorists.

Two still at the hospital last night were Harry Meyerstein, driver of the bus, 188 Broome street, Newark; Marie Egan, 130 Essex avenue, Orange; Hugh Crispin, 50 North Third street, Newark; Frederick Williams, 9 Swaine place, Newark; William Connolly, 61 Essex avenue, Orange, and John M. Hague of 102 Steuben street, East Orange. No arrests were made because of the accident.

Two automobiles, each carrying three passengers, were in collision at East Fordham road near Hughes avenue, The Bronx, and John Rocco of 2395 Eighth avenue, driver of one of the cars, was taken to Fordham Hospital with a possible fracture of the skull. Peter Mulvey, 24 years old, of 456 West 149th street, and Joseph Dolan of 315 West 145th street, who were passengers in Rocco's car, also were taken to the hospital. Their condition is not serious. In the other automobile were George Raynor, his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scully and Mrs. Everett Byington, all of Norwalk, Conn. The women were treated for shock.

Helen Penno, 3 years old, playing in front of her home at 47 West 118th street, was struck by an automobile and taken to Harlem Hospital. Her skull was fractured and she received internal injuries. She is expected to die. The driver was not held.

Mrs. Florence Crowley, 70 years old, was run down by an automobile at Ninth avenue and Fifth street, Brooklyn, and suffered a fracture of the skull. She was taken to Norwegian Hospital. The driver of the automobile was Max Roscoe of 252 East Houston street, Manhattan. He was not arrested.

## TO ENDOW SCHOOL IN MRS. KEEP'S MEMORY

**Funds Being Raised to Run  
Farmington Kindergarten.**

A movement has been begun to endow as a memorial to Elizabeth V. Hale Keep, who was for ten years head of Miss Porter's famous old school for girls in Farmington, Conn., the kindergarten which she established in Farmington for the employees of the school and which was enlarged for the purpose of teaching the poorer children of the town.

The kindergarten has been kept going since Mrs. Keep's death, in 1917, by a group of former students, who have organized a memorial association. These students are now actively at work in an effort to collect funds to provide a permanent endowment for the kindergarten. Mrs. Edward Jenner, who is in charge of the kindergarten, addressed a meeting of the association at the Women's University Club recently and told them of the interest taken in the school by the children of Farmington.

**GIRL SCOUTS IN AMBULANCES.**  
Ambulances leaving Bellevue and Knickerbocker hospitals on emergency cases election day will carry Girl Scouts who are qualified in first aid work. Girl Scouts who have won the child nurse badge will take care of babies and young children while their mothers go to vote, upon application for this service through neighborhood and settlement houses. The mothers of these districts have been notified that they may call upon the scouts.

**PRISON GARDENERS GAIN.**  
Sell Produce to Warden and Get Credit on Accounts.  
Thirty-five prisoners of the penitentiary at East View, N. Y., who till small gardens of their own in the prison grounds last summer, have just concluded a deal with Warren McClellan, the warden, whereby the institution will purchase their surplus garden truck and add the money to their accounts.

The amounts the prisoners will receive range between \$10 and \$15, but one of them is to be paid \$29. Warden McClellan has insisted upon the theory it would instill a sense of thrift into the prisoners. Many of the prisoners sent large quantities of the produce to their families.

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## FOUR HELD IN CASE OF ABANDONED BOY

**Foster Father's Wife Tired of  
Blue Eyed Lad of Four and  
Set Him Adrift.**

**HAD COME FROM DETROIT**

**Little Fellow Found by Cop  
Keeping Silent Vigil in  
Rainy Street.**

A boy, 4 years old, in a navy blue suit and a round blue cap and with deep blue eyes waited outside a cafe at Sixth avenue and Fifth street on October 20 for a long time. A patrolman who passed the lad as he went along on beat and who finally took him to the Children's Society, said it must have been two hours before the youngster would give up his watch. He was soaking wet by that time, for it rained hard that morning.

"My father told me to stay here till he came back," said the boy. "He went in there with another man."

The patrolman went into the cafe, but found no one. On the way to the Children's Society the patrolman gathered that the boy had been adopted in Detroit last September and that the man who had left him was his adopted father, according to the story told in West Side court yesterday.

The boy gave his name as Eugene Paul Weaver of Detroit. He remained at the Children's Society until Sunday. A few days ago, however, a man who said he was Nick Katzier, 32 years old, formerly of Detroit, called to ask if a small boy had been found. When he gave a description of the boy the police arrested him for alleged abandonment, and subsequently arrested Katzier's wife, Mada, 31 years old; Joseph Trembley, 35 years old, and his wife, Elsie. Both couples are now living at 100 West Sixty-third street.

Detective Charles Flaherty of the West Forty-seventh street station said Katzier confessed to leaving the child with the statement that his wife had tired of the boy, and that the abandonment had been planned with the Trembleys. He and Trembley walked out of a side door of the cafe, leaving the boy, but later he became conscience stricken and searched for him, Katzier was reported as saying. Each of the defendants was held in \$1,000 bail.

## ONE HANGS HIMSELF, ANOTHER DIES IN FALL

**Grief and Illness Given as  
Causes.**

"Papa Fritz" Walther, 70 years old, a cabinetmaker, who had been a familiar figure in the Morrisania section of the Bronx for twenty-five years, was found dead yesterday, hanging from the sill of a door in his home at 452 East 166th street. Since the death of his wife, who years ago he has been taking breakfast at the home of Mrs. Amelia Helmer, an upstairs neighbor. Mrs. Helmer said she believed it was grief over his wife that caused the act. Mr. Walther has a daughter living in Philadelphia.

After his wife had gone to church yesterday Oscar Zahn, 66 years old, of 201 East Ninety-sixth street, went to the roof six stories above the street, and fell or jumped, according to the police.

Mrs. Millie Cohen, a third floor tenant, heard the body strike on the cellar steps below and summoned aid. Zahn was killed almost instantly. Neighbors told the police he had been ill for some time.

## PROBATION WORKERS TO HOLD CONFERENCE

**Laws Affecting Children Will  
Be Discussed.**

Probation officers and others interested in reclamation work with young criminal offenders will hold their thirteenth annual State conference in Buffalo on November 7, 8 and 9. One of the principal topics of discussion at the conference will be the laws of the State concerning children with special reference to the children's courts.

There are now more than 250 salaried probation officers in New York. In addition to many volunteer workers. They are employed in all children's courts and in all important criminal courts, their work being to investigate the records of offenders, to find out the causes back of their misdemeanors, and to apply the probation principle of help and strict supervision. Fifteen thousand persons are on probation at all times in this State, 3,000 more than the number confined in all prisons and reformatories, according to the State Probation Commission.

**'GROGGY' COP FINED \$10.**  
Condition Caused by Blow, He Explains to Judge.

Patrolman Patrick J. Grealis was fined \$10 in Harlem Court yesterday for disorderly conduct. He denied he had been drunk on Friday night when he entered a dance hall at 1253 Lexington avenue, or that he had hurled a chair at some of the dancers.

"Somebody hit me on the head with the chair, and after that I became groggy," he said.

The case was heard before Magistrate George W. Simpson. Grealis is attached to the Bergen street station, Brooklyn, and lives at 1193 Washington avenue, The Bronx.

Inspector Thomas Underhill, who was said to have been kicked in the shin while officers were trying to place Grealis under arrest, testified that the officer was intoxicated. The complainant was Paul Hoffman, manager of the hall.

## ADD TO CONVALESCENT HOME.

Vincent de Paul Society to Buy  
Freeport Land.

The Right Rev. Charles E. McDonnell, Bishop of Brooklyn, has just approved the purchase of a large tract at Northport, L. I., by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul as an extension to the Convalescent Home for Women and Children at Freeport. The tract contains forty-one acres, has a fifteen room house and several outhouses.

Mr. Francis J. O'Hara of St. James' Pro-Cathedral, Brooklyn, an spiritual director of the society, was active in the movement to obtain the Northport property.

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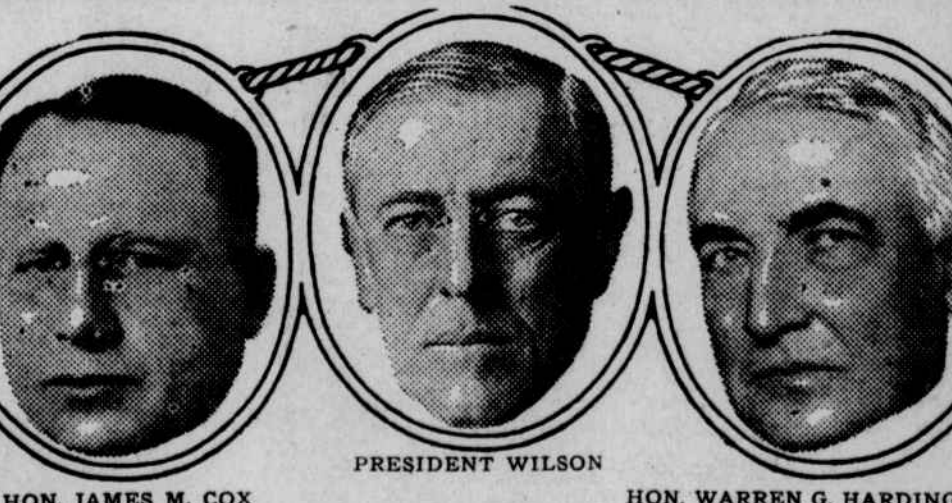
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